

DATELINE NO. 69: CHICAGO  
JOHN PAXSON

APRIL 14, 1976

SCHOLARSHIP FAIR  
(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

ANNCR: AND NOW THE VOICE OF AMERICA PRESENTS...DATELINE, ANOTHER IN THE SERIES OF PROGRAMS ABOUT PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS IN THE UNITED STATES. TODAY, OUR DATELINE IS CHICAGO AND OUR REPORT FROM VOA CORRESPONDENT JOHN PAXSON TELLS ABOUT A SPECIAL KIND OF FAIR. NOT THE KIND OF FAIR THAT SHOWS LIVESTOCK AND HOME COOKING BUT ONE THAT'S DESIGNED TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE FIND THE MONEY TO GO TO COLLEGE.

VOICE: THERE ARE ABOUT FOUR THOUSAND COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE UNITED STATES. AND MOST OF THEM OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS (STIPENDS) OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER, SOME PROVIDING THE STUDENT WITH JUST A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS, OTHERS COVERING THE WHOLE COST OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION, SOMETIMES AS MUCH AS TEN OR FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS.

EVERY YEAR MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS IN SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS. BUT THERE IS A PROBLEM: MANY STUDENTS DO NOT KNOW THE MONEY EXISTS, OR IF THEY DO, WHERE OR HOW TO APPLY FOR IT:

TAPE: CUT ONE -- FRIEDMAN

"THERE'S JUST NOT TOO MUCH INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON A BROAD SCALE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL TO KNOW ABOUT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES. THERE'S NO CENTRAL LOCATION WHERE A LOT OF THIS INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED. AND THIS IS THE IDEA: TO HAVE A SUPERMARKET OR CONSORTIUM WHERE A LOT OF GROUPS CAN GATHER TO MEET WITH THE PUBLIC THAT'S INTERESTED IN SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION."

VOICE: SY FRIEDMAN, VICE PRESIDENT OF A CHICAGO-BASED COMPANY THAT IS PROVIDING THAT SERVICE TO STUDENTS -- SCHOLARSHIP FAIR, INCORPORATED -- A NON-PROFIT PRIVATE GROUP FUNDED BY BUSINESS, EDUCATIONAL GROUPS AND PRIVATE CITIZENS.

EVERY YEAR THE COMPANY SPONSORS A THREE-DAY-LONG SCHOLARSHIP FAIR. ESSENTIALLY, IT IS A CONVENTION WHERE PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS MAY MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO FIND OUT WHAT SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!

TAPE: CUT TWO -- FRIEDMAN

"TODAY WE FIND THAT THE PEOPLE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ECONOMIC SCALE AND AT THE TOP REALLY ARE NOT TOO MUCH CONCERNED, IF THEY HAVE THE ABILITY TO GO TO COLLEGE, TO RECEIVE SOME STIPEND. THESE PEOPLE HAVE MONEY AVAILABLE. IT'S THE FAMILIES IN BETWEEN, IN THE MIDDLE GROUP, FROM ABOUT TEN THOUSAND ON UP TO CLOSE TO TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND-DOLLARS -- THAT'S THE FAMILY INCOME -- WHO ARE HAVING PROBLEMS GOING TO SCHOOL, AS FAR AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS CONCERNED."

VOICE: THAT IS WHERE THE SCHOLARSHIP FAIR ENTERS THE PICTURE. THE FAIR PROVIDES INFORMATION TO THESE PEOPLE WHO MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE HAVE ACCESS TO SUCH INFORMATION:

TAPE: CUT THREE -- FRIEDMAN

"THERE ARE VARIOUS TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FROM THE DIFFERENT COLLEGES AND EACH ONE HAS A DIFFERENT SET OF CRITERIA. AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, FOR EXAMPLE, WE KNOW OF ONE CALLED THE MYRA GAIN SCHOLARSHIP. SHE ESTABLISHED IT IN HONOR OF HER FATHER WHO WAS A SCHOOL SUPERINTENDANT IN FIVE DIFFERENT CITIES IN FIVE DIFFERENT STATES. NOW YOU MUST COME FROM ONE OF THESE DIFFERENT STATES TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP. IN OTHER CASES THERE ARE CERTAIN INSTANCES WHERE YOUR FAMILY MUST BE EMPLOYED BY A GIVEN COMPANY AND IF THIS IS SO THEN YOU'RE ABLE TO GET A SCHOLARSHIP. THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE, FOR EXAMPLE. IF YOU'RE OF POLISH EXTRACTION, YOU CAN GET A SCHOLARSHIP. AND THE SAME THING WITH OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS AND OTHER COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS AND SO ON."

VOICE: MISTER FRIEDMAN NOTES THAT THE MONEY IS THERE IF THE STUDENT IS WILLING TO SEARCH FOR IT. BUT MANY ARE NOT SO WILLING, AND A GOOD DEAL OF THE MONEY GOES UNUSED.

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- FRIEDMAN

"WE FIND A LOT OF SCHOLARSHIPS, HOWEVER, DO GO BEGGING BECAUSE THERE'S NO ONE OUT THERE WHO KNOWS THAT THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE. THERE ARE ONE OR TWO ORGANIZATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE COUNTRY THAT DO OFFER SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE BUT THEY CHARGE A FEE. OUR SCHOLARSHIP FAIR IS DIFFERENT. IT'S FREE."

VOICE: SCHOLARSHIP FAIR, INCORPORATED, JUST CONCLUDED ITS MOST RECENT FAIR IN CHICAGO. IN THREE DAYS ALMOST FIFTY THOUSAND STUDENTS MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES FROM ALL AROUND THE UNITED STATES.

MISTER FRIEDMAN IS INSISTENT THAT THE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE THERE FOR THOSE WHO REALLY WANT AND NEED THEM...NOT ONLY FOR AMERICAN STUDENTS BUT FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS, TOO, WHO WANT TO ATTEND AN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY.

TAPE: CUT FIVE -- FRIEDMAN

"IF YOU HAVE THE DETERMINATION TO GO ON TO COLLEGE, HIGHER EDUCATION, IF YOU HAVE THAT DRIVE, MAKE THAT EFFORT, APPLY TO THE COLLEGE OF YOUR CHOICE AND SEE WHAT'S AVAILABLE."

VOICE: SY FRIEDMAN, VICE PRESIDENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FAIR, INCORPORATED, OF CHICAGO, A COMPANY THAT SPONSORS A SPECIAL KIND OF FAIR TO BRING TOGETHER STUDENTS AND EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

ANNCR: YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO DATELINE. ANOTHER IN THE SERIES OF VOA PROGRAMS ABOUT PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS IN THE UNITED STATES. JOIN US AGAIN ----NEXT-----(AT THIS TIME) FOR ANOTHER...DATELINE.

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WJL/RCS